

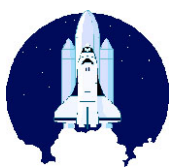


# countdown

April 22, 2008

Vol. 13, No. 30

## Discovery preparations under way for rollover to VAB



### ◆ Shuttle Update:

In the Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 3, Discovery has been weighed and its center of gravity determined.

Preparations are under way for the orbiter transport system operations. The orbiter's rollover to the Vehicle Assembly Building is targeted for April 26.

◆ **ELV Update:** The launch of GLAST has been postponed until issues associated with the buildup of the Delta II at Pad 17-B can be resolved. A new processing schedule leading to launch will then be developed. A new launch date for GLAST has not been determined at this time.

Meanwhile, at the Astrotech payload processing facility, the GLAST Ku-band communications antenna was installed and testing began on Sunday. End-to-end communications system testing was also scheduled for last weekend. Closeouts of the spacecraft thermal blankets continue. The star tracker sun shade installation is currently planned for Wednesday.

■ **Earth Day Events April 22** — Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. today at the

**Did You Know?** For the first time ever, NASA Television aired a special hour-long broadcast on Friday of views of Earth taken in High Definition, or HD, by astronauts on past space shuttle and International Space Station missions.

The special HD broadcast will replay every hour from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. today.

MFF Cafeteria, 3M Corporation representatives will display aerospace products that contain ingredients less harmful to human health and the environment, produce less hazardous waste, and/or reduce worker exposure to harmful substances. The products include those used for precision cleaning, thermal management, coatings, adhesives, fillers, protective tapes, dust free abrasives, personal protective devices, and others. Contact Shannah Trout for more information at 867-1692.

In addition, NASA Transportation will display a collection of alternative fueled vehicles including a SMART Car (electric), Honda Civic GX compressed natural gas (CNG), Chevy Malibu Flex-fuel vehicle (FFV) E-85, and a low-speed electric vehicle, the LSP's Miles car.

■ **Environmental and Energy Awards Program Nominations Due May 9** -- The Environmental and Energy Awards Program recognizes NASA and Contractor individuals and teams who have demonstrated leadership in enhancing the environment, implementing sustainable practices, conserving energy and preserving natural resources. The nomination form and instructions are available by sending an e-mail message to [Maggie.S.Forbes@nasa.gov](mailto:Maggie.S.Forbes@nasa.gov). Please submit final, complete nominations via e-mail or through the mail system by close of business May 9 to Maggie Forbes, TA-C4, 867-3305.

The award categories are Education, Outreach, and Awareness; Energy Conservation and Use of Renewable Energy; Environmental and Energy Leadership; Hazardous Waste Management; His-

## GLAST to get sun shade on Wednesday

toric/Archaeological Preservation; Natural Resources/Habitat Conservation; Pollution Prevention; Recycling; Sustainable Design/High-Performance Buildings/Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED); Sustainable Purchasing; and Water Conservation.

Recipients will be recognized at the KSC Awards Ceremony. A certificate and a patch that has been flown aboard a space shuttle mission will be awarded to each individual recipient. The members of a team will receive a certificate with a copy of the team patch.



### ■ Book Fair at KSC —

The NASA Exchange is having a book fair. There are books for every age group. The book fair will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the following days at these locations:

- Tuesday - Wednesday, ARF Building Room 1727
- Thursday - Friday, MFF Cafeteria

■ **NASA Science** — NASA-supported researchers have realized that strange things may be happening on the full moon when it gets hit by Earth's magnetic tail. You can read the full story at [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/17apr\\_magnetotail.htm?list947891](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2008/17apr_magnetotail.htm?list947891).

*Countdown* is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to [anita.barrett@bosc.ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:anita.barrett@bosc.ksc.nasa.gov). For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815. You can also find pdf editions of *Countdown* on the Web at [http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown\\_toc.html](http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown_toc.html).